

Building Literature from St'át'imcets Oral Narrative

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Social Sciences and Humanities
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sciences humaines du Canada



Sqwéqwel' múta7 sptakwlh
St'át'imcets Narratives
by Qwa7yán'ak (Carl Alexander)

*Transcribed and Edited by Elliott Callahan,
Henry Davis, John Lyon and Lisa Matthewson*



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Linguistics

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Upper St'át'imc Language,
Culture and Education
Society

Goals

- (a) provide the language community with quality learning materials
- (b) provide linguists with accurate data
- (c) build a legacy of literature in the language

Materials

- (a) digitized, heritage recordings of fluent speakers from the 1960s and 1970s.
- (b) new recordings from fluent speakers.

Story-Tellers

- Carl Alexander, from Nxwísten
- Bill Edwards, from Ts'k'wáylacw
- Martina LaRochelle, from Sek'wel'wás
- Sam Mitchell, from Cácl'ep

St'át'imcets: "Sp'aoy"

Nilh t'u7 sqwatsátsi slhéqwlheqw ekw7ú nkúk-wem'a ekw7úwna, nilh ti7 wa7 tsúnem lta nqwal'uttenlhkálha ekw7áwna wa7 "mulc."

English Translation: "Frank Gott"

Then they left riding on horseback upriver (north) to that place that we call *Mulc* ('wood') in our language. *Mulc* is the place name the Indians use.



Figure 1: Fishing at Scet'

Community Involvement

- Community artists provide cover art
- Fluent elders and language students assist with transcription and place names:

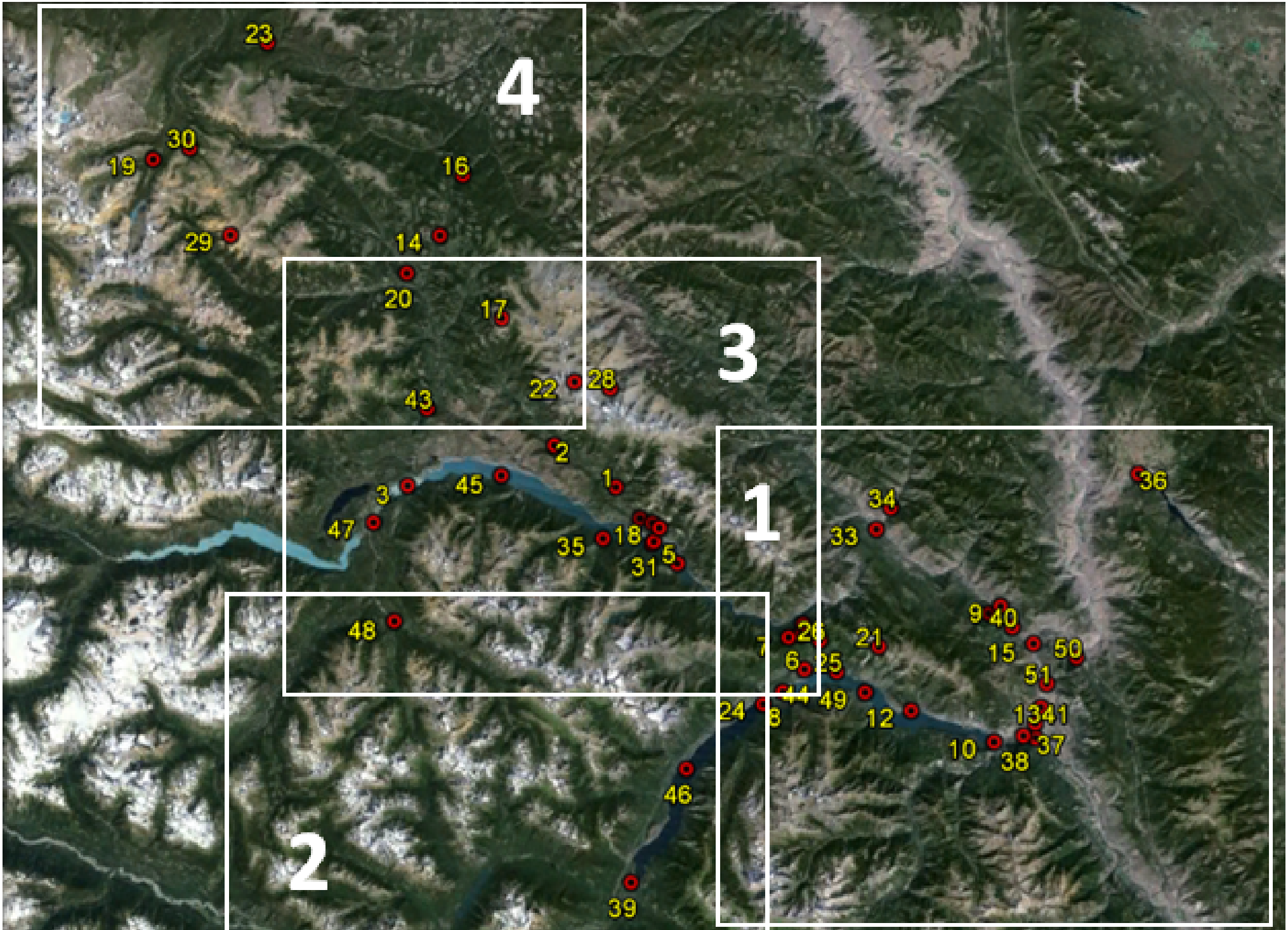


Figure 2: Place name map in Alexander et. al (2016)

Interlinear Analysis

- (9) nílh=t'u7 s=qwatsáts=i s-lhéqw•lheqw
COP=EXCL NMLZ=leave=3PL.POSS STAT-TRED•ride.horse
e=kw7ú nkúkwem'=a e=kw7ú-wna...
to=that.INVIS upriver=EXIS to=that.INVIS-precisely
Then they left riding on horseback upriver (north) to...
- (10) ...nílh=ti7 wa7 tsún-em wa7...
COP=that.VIS IPFV say+DIR-1PL.ERG IPFV
wa7.... nílh=ti7 wa7 tsún-em
IPFV COP=that.VIS IPFV say+DIR-1PL.ERG
l=[ta]=n-qwal'ut-ten-lhkálh=a
at=DET=LOC-speak-INS-1PL.POSS=EXIS
e=kw7á-wna wa7 "mulc."
to=this.INVIS-precisely IPFV wood
...that place that we call *Mulc* ('wood') in our language.



Figure 3: Frank Gott

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- UBCOPL partners with First Nations organizations, like USLCES (www.uslces.org) to produce joint publications
- UBCOPL provides free electronic versions, including sound files, on its website: <https://lingpapers.sites.olt.ubc.ca>

Sqwéqwel's Nelh Skelkekla7lhkálha

Tales of Our Elders

from Bill Edwards, Martina LaRochelle and Sam Mitchell



transcribed, translated and edited by
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